

13.0.0 FOSTER CARE & KINSHIP CARE

13.1.0 Kinship Care

Kinship Care is a public child welfare payment to the non-parental relative who is caring for a minor child. Kinship Care children are not categorically eligible for Medicaid (MA).

An non-legally responsible relative (NLRR) of children placed in their homes may be eligible for MA as a caretaker of a deprived child. This would include children receiving Kinship Care.

The client applies for Kinship Care at the Child Welfare Agency (Maximus in Milwaukee). The case is then referred to the local child support agency. When approved, a Kinship Care payment is made. S/he applies for MA through the Economic Support Agency (ESA). Run the case through regular eligibility testing for MA.

13.2.0 Federal IV-E Foster Care

Federal financial participation is available under Title IV-E of the Social Security Act (SSA) to pay for all or part of a person's foster care or subsidized adoption. IV-E eligible children are categorically eligible for MA in the state where they reside only if placed in out of home care in a non-profit facility.

When a minor caretaker is in foster care paid by Title IV-E of the Social Security Act, any of his/her children who is with him/her must also have his/her care paid under Title IV-E. The minor caretaker's child is not eligible for MA under any other subprogram other than Title IV-E.

13.3.0 Non IV-E Foster Care

Non IV-E foster children are receiving foster care and not eligible for IV-E. They are not categorically eligible. Determine their eligibility by taking the case through the MAHB or CARES. Eligibility begins with the first of the month in which all requirements are satisfied.

13.4.0 Medicaid Re-Determination

Whenever a child loses Foster Care MA eligibility, complete a separate MA eligibility re-determination before Foster Care MA is terminated, unless the child dies or leaves Wisconsin.

ESA should be notified of children leaving the Foster Care system, with eligibility information. Until the MA eligibility re-determination, the Child Welfare agency will extend MA eligibility using the Foster Care medical status code.

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13.4.0 Medicaid Re-Determination (cont)

If there is insufficient information to re-determine MA eligibility, request needed information from the individual or family, who have a responsibility to cooperate, If they do not comply within 30 days, MA can be terminated with an adverse action notice.